

the Almagest

Volume 44, Issue 8

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WEEKLY WEATHER

Today: 

Hi: 72	Lo: 49
Friday: Mostly Sunny	Hi: 73 Lo: 38
Saturday: Sunny	Hi: 76 Lo: 39
Sunday: Partly Cloudy	Hi: 82 Lo: 59
Monday: Partly Cloudy	Hi: 82 Lo: 61
Tuesday: Partly Cloudy	Hi: 82 Lo: 64
Wednesday: Sct'd Showers	Hi: 78 Lo: 62

Students gather for Volunteer Day

BY MELISSA INGRAM

LSUS students, along with students from Centenary College and the Job Corps participated in Volunteer Day on Saturday, Oct. 25 from 10 a.m. to noon. These students helped organize books to help children further their education. Students organized books from level zero to five according to how many words were in each book. Later that day, the books were distributed to children in certain neighborhoods who either had no books of their own or very few.

Around 16 students showed up at the Volunteer Day and Candace Williamson, an MBA student who is the graduate assistant/marketing coordinator for the Office of Student Activities, was pleased. Williamson makes sure that there is a volunteer activity for LSUS students every month. The purpose of this Volunteer Day was to "Help spread knowledge and joy by categorizing and distributing books to children and young adults," according to the



MELISSA INGRAM

Sarah Bradeen and Stacy Alexander distributed books to kids on Volunteer Day.

Volunteer Day posters around the campus.

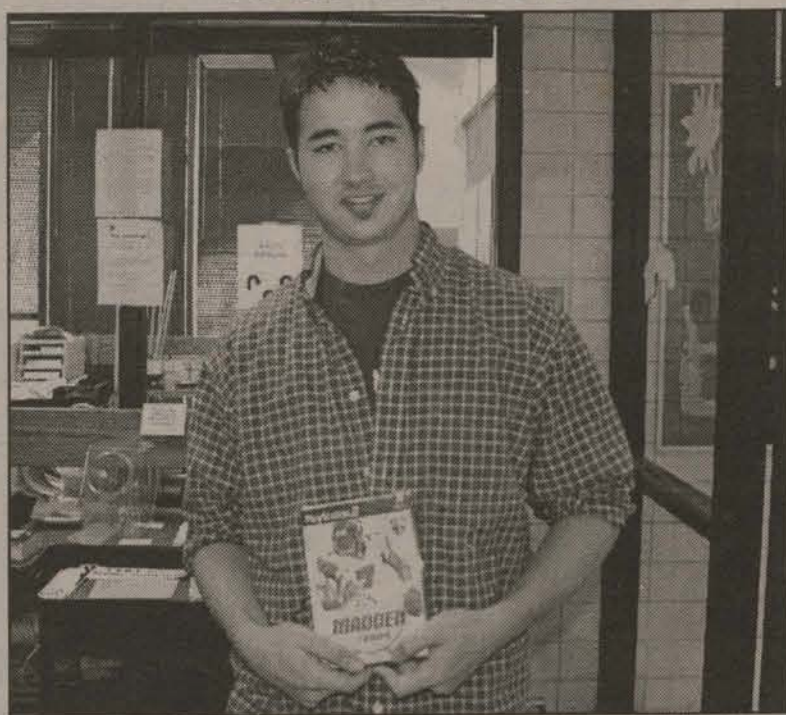
Lynn Bryan, volunteer and internship program coordinator of the Shreveport-Bossier Community Renewal, organized this Volunteer Day. The SBCR is very concerned with literacy in the high crime and poverty areas of Shreveport-Bossier, and one way they help the community interact is with the Volunteer Day. There are sever-

al neighborhoods that the SBCR takes care of and ministers to, such as Allendale, Cedar Grove, Highland, Barksdale Annex and Queensboro.

In each of these neighborhoods there are two "Friendship Houses" that have been donated and paid for by the city. One

SEE VOLUNTEER PAGE 7

Madden Challenge Tournament



KEVIN GARNARD

Joseph Pullig, a junior business major, was the winner of the Madden 2003 Football Challenge in the UC Oct. 21. Pullig won a new copy of Madden NFL Football 2004.

OSA offers shots to fight flu season

BY RACHEL WRIGHT

The Office of Student Activities and Willis Knighton Work Kare will offer an opportunity for the folks of LSUS to avoid the bite of the flu bug.

Flu shots will be available to students, faculty, staff and families, Tuesday, Nov. 4, from 1-3 p.m. and Thursday, Nov. 13, from 1-2 p.m. in the UC lobby. The cost is \$15.

Mollie A. Schmelzer, Technical Services Coordinator for OSA is synchronizing this the health-watch effort.

Schmelzer encourages students and faculty to take advantage of this opportunity.

"Though this is a very small window of time, Leslie at Work Kare has assured me that this is comparable to what they have done in the past," Schmelzer said. "I have seen the shots advertised elsewhere for \$20, so there is a savings involved."

In addition to private clinics, the American

SEE FLU SHOTS PAGE 3

the Almagest

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From the Editor

Halloween has always been one of my favorite holidays. Aside from my birthday — a day just for me to party and get presents from my friends and family — Halloween is the only other completely self-indulgent holiday that exists. Even though you eat massive amounts of food on Thanksgiving, you are still supposed to be thanking God for other things, too (i.e. family, a home, a TV to watch the football game). Easter is great too, but you don't get to wear a costume.

Halloween is the only day you get to dress up, eat tons of junk and act like a child again. The weather is always crisp (except this year) and spirits are high. And I can't stress enough the fun of getting all dressed up in a cute costume and going to a theme party with your friends. In high school, my friends and I went through a phase when we were too embarrassed to dress up. But once we hit college, we decided we didn't care what people thought and went for it again. We aren't allowed in the party if we don't dress up now. And we wouldn't want it any other way. So my recommendation to everyone this Halloween is to get dressed up (no matter how dumb you feel), go out and have fun. Sure, you may look like a kid for one night, but don't kids always have more fun anyway?

— Candice

Corrections

Last week it was stated that Heather Graham co-starred in *Sleepy Hollow* with Johnny Depp, while truthfully, the stars are Johnny Depp's and Christina Ricci.

Editorial Policy

The information presented in this publication by no means reflects the opinions of the administration or staff of LSUS. *The Almagest* seeks to provide information for the LSUS campus and community; to involve students, faculty and staff; and to provide a public forum for ideas as guaranteed in the First Amendment of the Constitution. Letters to the Editor are encouraged. However, the staff reserves the right to edit letters for clarity, length, and content. Any letter submitted by a club or organization must be signed by all members of the group or by the group's president. *The Almagest* reserves the right not to publish submitted materials.

The Almagest is published on Thursday mornings and is printed by the Natchitoches Times.

Comments and complaints are welcome and should be addressed to Candice Leone, Editor-in-Chief. They must be accompanied by your full name and email address.

Letters to the Editor

Dear Editor,

I would just like to commend your writer for finally stating the truth about the SGA. This year, especially, the SGA has been very futile in their pursuits, or lack thereof. I have been in school at LSUS for a few years now, and do not recall one time that the SGA has made a significant impact on student life. Aren't they supposed to be working to better the University for the students?

I am sure that there are things that have been accomplished by the SGA that's more behind the scenes, but, I personally would like to reap the benefits of the work they do, if they do any at all.

I have attended a few of their meetings in the past, and have not been impressed with the unprofessional way they are run. There are inappropriate nominations, unsuitable comments from the President, out-of-order voting procedures, and other things that could be changed to make our SGA more efficient, and hopefully more productive.

I think an appropriate Christmas present for the SGA would be Robert's Rules of Order, even

the revised edition.

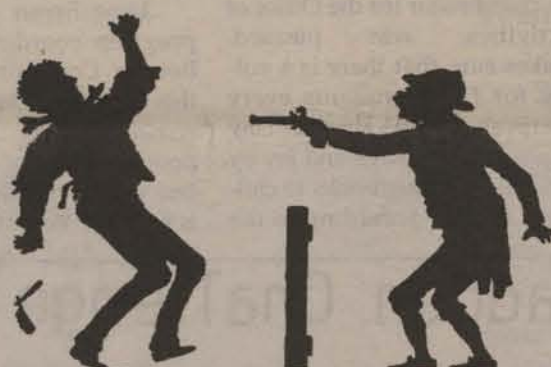
I also think it is very important, journalistically, for a newspaper to cover, and criticize things as they should be. Hoping that the SGA would realize their faults through that article was the right thing to do. It is hard to overcome bias, be of peers, associates, or government, but they need to be surmounted, and disparaged should the story call for that.

I would also like to comment on the impressive new look of the Almagest. I think the staff this year has done a very good job of making our newspaper more professional. The content is much more interesting, and the layout of the paper is finally up to par for a college newspaper. There are certainly fewer mistakes than in the past, and you and your staff should truly be praised for the hard work you have put in.

Keep up the good work.

Sincerely,
Michele Frye
Senior, General Studies

Crime Blotter



We received no reports for the crime blotter this week. It will return next week with every single instance of crime on our dangerous campus revealed.

Sex and the Campus

Are sex buddies OK?

BY BO WELLBORN

Is wrong to designate a person your "sex buddy?"

I often wonder if we all had sex buddies, would there such tension at bars, such competition for the alpha male or female partner?

My friend "Aaron" has a sex buddy. The premise of their relationship is that when one is in need, the other provides that service.

Are they co-prostitutes to each other? One supplies a demand and the other supplies a service.

We are only talking about monogamous sexual partners, but is it not OK for them to do this?

What do you think?

Do you have a secret sex buddy that no one knows about?

Are you a co-prostitute?

the Almagest

wants your feedback

e-mail us at almagest@pilot.lsus.edu

or call 797-5328

BCM celebrates Halloween early with costume party, devotional

BY MARTHA DURHAM

The Baptist Collegiate Ministry celebrated Halloween early with a costume party at their facility Friday, Oct. 24. The students gathered at 7:30 p.m. to play games, have refreshments and hear a short devotional.

"Only about 25 people attended this party," said Hannah Nicholls, a sophomore biology major.

The members of the BCM attempted to raise interest for this party by passing out flyers in front of the University Center earlier in the week. People were encouraged to come dressed in a costume to have a good time.

Some people came as traditional fairytale characters such as Cinderella and Snow White. Nicholls, along with several others, came as a fairy. One member even came as a character from Lord of the Rings. Shane Moore, BCM's assistant collegiate minister, came dressed as a confederate soldier.

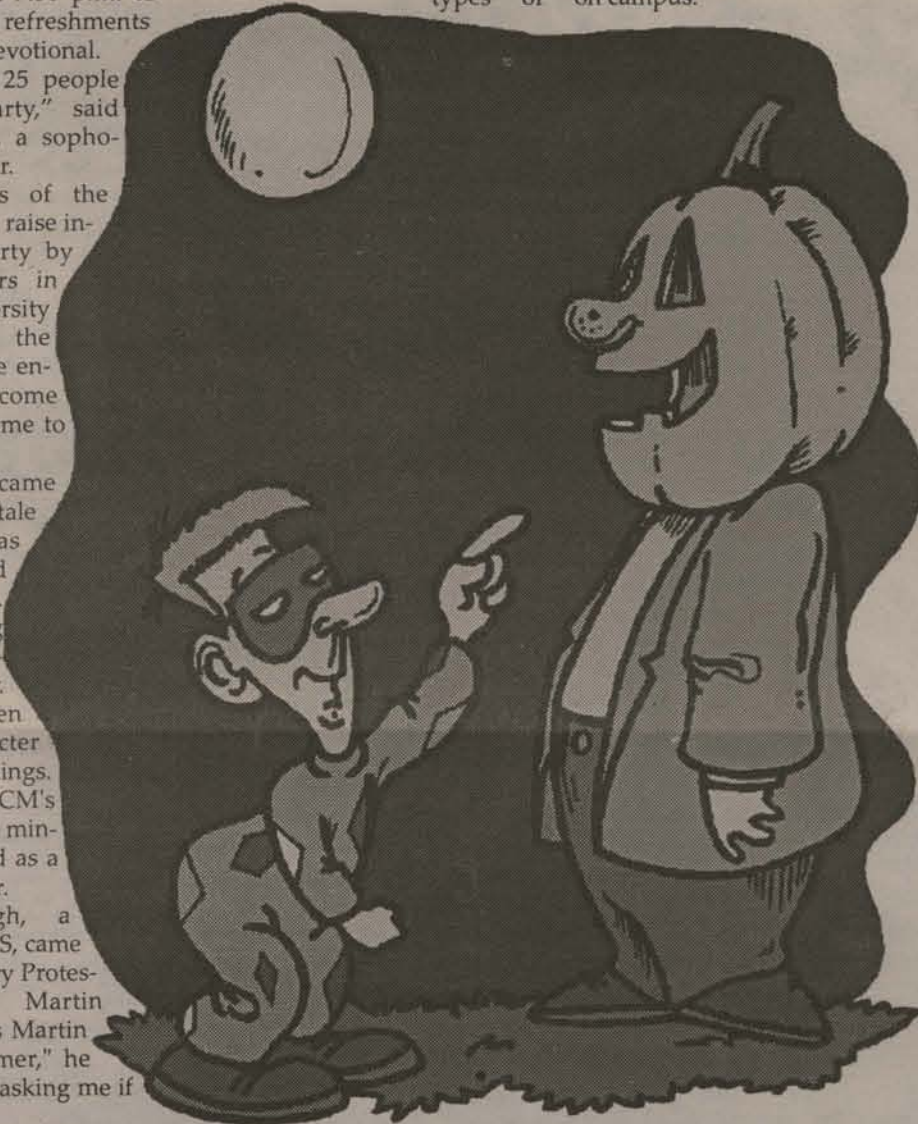
Casey Hough, a sophomore at LSUS, came as the 16th-century Protestant reformer Martin Luther. "I came as Martin Luther, the reformer," he said. "People kept asking me if

I was Martin Luther King."

A gentleman from Rose Park Baptist Church gave the devotional for the evening. He related the devotional to Halloween by speaking about the different types of

masks people in the church and in the world try to wear.

The costume party was just one of the BCM's attempts to provide students with wholesome opportunities to have fun on campus.



Library exhibit displays Grabill family works

BY NISREEN HAJAJ

Noel Memorial Library is celebrating the history of Louisiana by hosting an exhibit of the historic photographs of Burch and William Grabill. The Grabills, who were father and son, were two significant photographers in Shreveport and Northwest Louisiana in the 20th century.

Two years ago, Grabill's daughters donated 3,500 hundred negatives and about 100 prints of their father and brother, Burch and William, to the archives department at Noel Memorial Library. The archives department chose prints from the collection and put them in what is said to be one of the most important books to represent the photographic history of Shreveport and its surrounding territories. The book, "Photo by Grabill, A Legacy of Images," was a tearful surprise to Grabill's daughters, who had not previously compiled their father's and brother's work into a book because of the amount of professional work and time it would take.

The purpose of the book was to honor these two men and their work and to promote awareness of the archives and their work in historic preservation. All of the money raised from the book will go back into the archives to be used in preservation work.

Laura Conerly, the archivist at Noel library who selected the photographs and captions to be used, said she was really proud of the book and very happy with the results of hers and her colleagues' hard work. She stressed the fact that no personal profit is being made and that the money is going to the archives preservation work. She also encouraged people to buy the book, because it is a "legacy of images" and tells a lot about the history of Louisiana.

Dr. Robert Miciotto, who is also an archives associate at Noel Memorial, wrote the text of the book. "The book covers most of the 20th century. It tells about the history of the area," said Miciotto.

Alan Gabehart, dean of the library, said he was really proud of the efforts being made by his employees to make the archives collection one of the most important historical resources in the area.

"It's a fabulous book, and one of the things that is so amazing about it is that the history and the pictures have survived," said Penny Durham, a friend of the Grabills' family.

The book, "Photo by Grabill, A Legacy of Images," is available at the Archives collection at Noel Memorial Library for \$35. The exhibit will run through the month of November. It features the works of the Grabills, including photos of Shreveport dating back to 1919. It also features antique cameras. Exhibit hours are 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday, and 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. on Wednesday.

Have a story idea?

We want to hear it.

Call us at 797-5328

or

e-mail us at

almagest@pilot.lsus.edu

FLU SHOTS

continued from page 1

Red Cross will also sponsor a series of vaccinations to combat the flu and pneumonia.

"I have seen the shots advertised elsewhere for \$20, so there is a savings involved."

~ Mollie Schmelzer
Technical Services
Coordinator for OSA

According to the Center for Disease Control, the flu is a highly infectious disease of the lungs characterized by fever, body aches, tiredness, cough and a sore throat or runny

nose. If not treated properly, it can lead to pneumonia.

The flu season typically runs from November through March, though, experts have not yet predicted what kind of flu season this will be.

Raoult Ratard, state epidemiologist with the Office of Public Health in New Orleans, said the last two seasons were mild, resulting in a decrease of reported cases. "You read some articles where they think we're going to have a lot more cases this year than last. Nobody agrees," he said.

High risk persons include: people over 65, children ages 23 months to six years, adults and children with asthmatic or heart conditions, diabetes, and women who are more than three months pregnant during the flu season.

SPORTS

LSUS Pilots visit area schools for Red Ribbon Week

BY NEIL CASSARD

Members of the LSUS baseball team are visiting two area schools in honor of Red Ribbon Week, created in 1988 to promote a drug and alcohol-free life. Red Ribbon Week runs from Oct. 23-31. The national theme is "Unite for a drug free world."

Tuesday, Oct. 27 six members of the Pilots baseball team visited students at South Highlands Elementary School. Split into three groups of two, the Pilots spent 30-minute sessions explaining to third and fourth grade classes the importance of staying in school and leading a drug and alcohol-free lifestyle.

Judy Livingston, a counselor at

South Highlands, said the members of the Pilots baseball team are "Role models for our children." Livingston said they are students who have excelled both athletically and academically, and are in a

provided red ribbons for the students to wear.

Three members of the Pilots will also be speaking at two assemblies hosted by Cad-

short amount of time.

Clint Barr, the graduate assistant coach, said that the event, a first for the Pilots, was the brainchild of Head Coach Rocke Musgraves. Barr said he hopes that the visitations to area schools will continue into the future, and someday expand to encompass the athletics department as a whole. He also said that he likes having the "ability to do these kinds of things for our community."

To participate in Red Ribbon Week, it is not necessary to speak to young people about the benefits of being drug and alcohol-free. People can participate by pinning a small red ribbon to their shirt to represent that they are proud to be drug free.

Drug Free

perfect position to explain to the younger generation the importance of leading a healthy, drug free lifestyle, as well as the benefits of getting a good education. South Highlands also created a board for students to write their feelings on in honor of Red Ribbon Week, and the parish

do Middle Magnet on Friday, Oct. 31. Each assembly will inform 100-200 young students about the dangers that drugs and alcohol pose to healthy living. While lacking the personal touch of visiting individual classrooms, the assembly will allow the Pilots to convey the message of no drugs and good education to a large number of students in a

CSU to host book of Job interpretation

BY MARTHA DURHAM

Jim McGill, a scripture specialist from the Greco Institute, will give a special lecture to the Catholic Student Union on Nov. 6. The organization is moving their monthly meeting to this date to accommodate their guest speaker. The meeting will be held during Common Hour in room 335 of the Sciences Building.

McGill will speak to students and faculty about a way to interpret the book of Job. In an e-mail to Dr. Elizabeth Zippi, advisor for the Catholic Student Union, McGill said, "It raises questions of life's fairness, God's justness and the meaning of human suffering."

Zippi said students of all religions are welcome to attend the event. She said the differences in beliefs simply add to the interesting discussions the students have.

McGill teaches Scripture courses for the Greco Institute, which offers people of all ages and education levels access to a higher knowledge of Catholic and biblical issues. The bishop of the Diocese of Alexandria-Shreveport founded the Greco Institute in 1982 to serve the Shreveport area.

Any students who are interested in learning more about the Catholic religion can take classes from the Greco Institute to earn a one-hour elective credit at LSUS, said Zippi. The classes generally last around eight weeks.

McGill spoke to the Catholic Student Union last year and was well received by the members.

Vassar values variety in thought

BY KEVIN ALEXANDER

Pacing back and forth at the front of the classroom, the teacher eagerly listens to his students analyze their assigned movie for the day. Yes, their assigned movie. As the students express their various interests or frustrations with "The Matrix," Dr. John Vassar stands at the front, arms crossed, moderating what is turning into a rather lengthy debate about the nature of free will. Finally, as the debate winds down, he speaks.

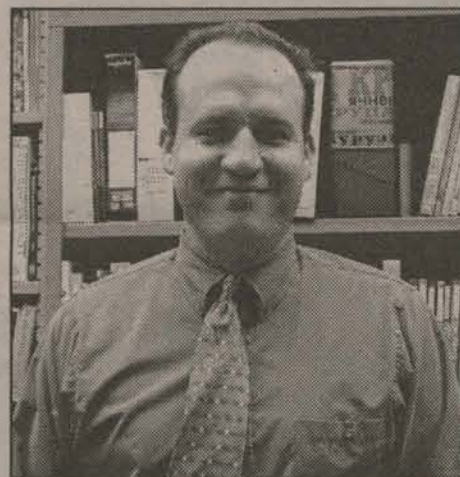
"I think it might be a decent idea to go see the final installment of 'The Matrix' as a class. What do you think?" he asked the class.

A student in the back rather hastily inquired, "Are you buying?"

"I'm a state employee in the state of Louisiana," was the quick response.

The genuineness and very subtle, dry humor exhibited by the professor in his mid-30s has easily made him popular among students. Being the sole philosophy and religious studies professor at LSUS, he makes it his mission to help his students succeed. "If they are not understanding, it's not their fault, it's my fault," he said. It is that attitude about teaching that has earned him a reputation of truly caring about the college students he teaches. Discussing topics with students and "seeing the light come on" is what gives him the most thrill as a teacher.

It was in his early days as an undergraduate student that he was first exposed to philosophy. Being exposed to so many different viewpoints is an experience he will always remember. "You have various experiences that really cause you to re-evaluate all your world views growing up," he said. Vassar believes that people really begin to question their life-long be-



N. J. McMICHAEL

Dr. John Vassar, the only philosophy professor at LSUS, is popular with students.

liefs and establish their own views of the world during their college years.

He graduated from LSUS in 1991, got married, and "hit the Texas border vowing never to return to Shreveport." Nine years later, however, he returned to teach. Since his days as an undergraduate student, he has furthered his education, earning his doctorate from Baylor University in 2003. Studying and teaching philosophy is something he is very passionate about. "It simply exposes you to a wide variety of perspectives on things, and that's not always something you get in Shreveport," he said. Learning about the ideologies of historical figures such as Karl Marx and Bertrand Russell, author of "Why I am an Atheist", was pretty different from the traditional views he was taught growing up. Like many in the Shreveport area, he grew up in a very conservative, traditional household.

He believes students sitting next to each other in class must realize that they have different experiences and don't necessarily see the world the same way. "I

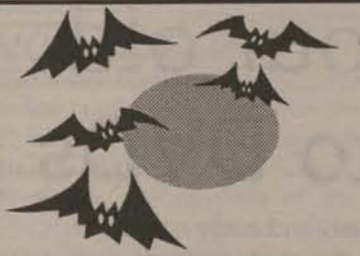
think the contribution of the university is to provide a neutral place to discuss not only philosophy or math, but religious studies," he said.

LSUS senior Scott Alexander has taken Vassar for both philosophy and religious studies courses. He thinks that in addition to presenting class in a very neutral manner, the classes were pretty easy to apply to day-to-day life. "I had always believed that a person shapes their own destiny. And all of a sudden, in this class I started looking at my own life and my own experiences, and I realized that I am a direct product of my environment," Alexander said.

There is a certain price to pay for being the only philosophy and religious studies professor on campus. Vassar says he constantly gets "interesting" phone calls from the switchboard when it's unclear who to send them to. "I once received a phone call from a person who explained to me how aliens had constructed the pyramids," he said. When it was obvious he wasn't buying, the caller turned "a little hostile." But Vassar said, "That certainly adds spice to your day."

One part of his life that certainly adds plenty of spice would be his children. There isn't a day that goes by when he doesn't refer to them at least once in class. In fact, he talks about them so much he has instituted a rule that he can only make so many references to them in a single class period.

Vassar feels that his studies have broadened his mind and opened him up to new ways of thinking. While he still tends to be a bit on the conservative side, he finds himself questioning things frequently. "I think anybody is well-served to not just accept what people have said to them, no matter who it is."



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Self-defense seminar aims to 'erase hate'

BY DANA BRIAN

LSUS will soon play host to an "Erase the Hate" seminar. The seminar, which is being sponsored by the Louisiana Foundation Against Sexual Assault, is designed to educate and inform students on the subject of sexual assault and self defense.

The key speaker for the event will be Brenda Smith, who has dedicated her life to informing people about sexual assaults. She educates on the factors surrounding an assault situation and tells about some of the things that can put a person at risk for becoming a target. According to Smith, college-age students are among the age group most at risk for being sexually assaulted.

Smith uses kickboxing to demonstrate the ways people can protect themselves from a potential attacker. She brings in padded mats and a partner to spar with during the seminar. Smith uses this sparring session to show simple self-defense techniques that can be

used during an attack.

Bryan Schmidt, student activities coordinator says that the purpose of the event is to promote awareness. It is open to anyone who would like to attend. He says that the event will be held in the University Center Art Gallery to give it a "open session" feel. "If someone walks by, sees what is going on and is interested in coming in, they are welcome to," Schmidt said. "You don't necessarily have to be here from start to finish."

The event was originally scheduled for Oct. 24 but had to be postponed when Smith was unable to attend due to unavoidable circumstances.

No date has been set for the rescheduling of the event yet, although Schmidt did say it would most likely be sometime during early November.

For more information about the "Erase the Hate" seminar, contact the Office of Student Activities, room 232 in the UC, at 797-5393, or via e-mail at studentactivities@pilot.lsus.edu.

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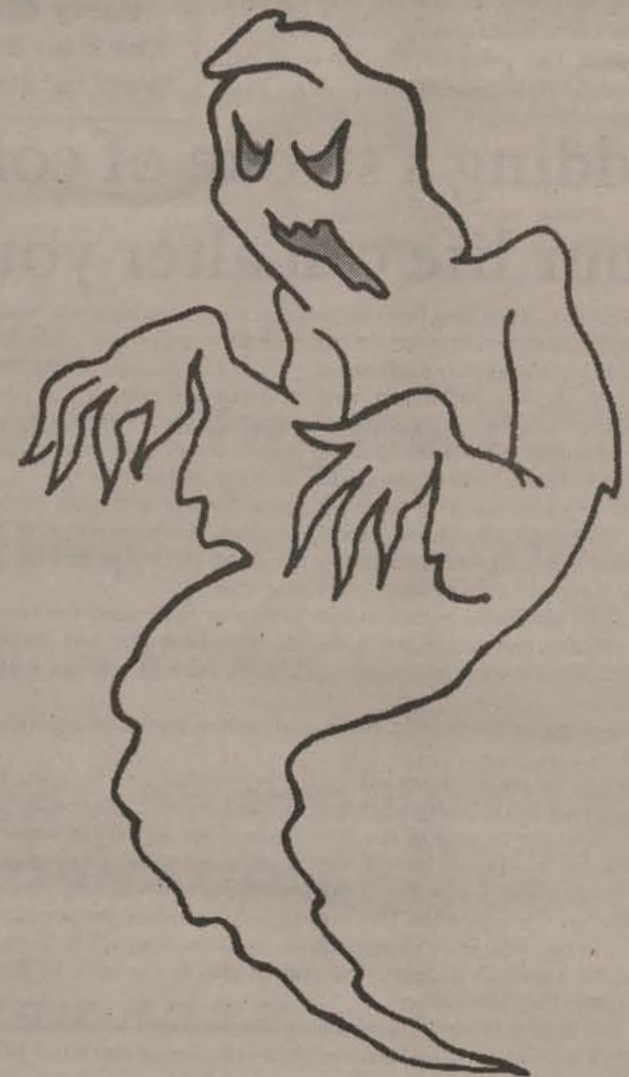
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How to choose the right Halloween masquerade

(NAPSI)— For many trick-or-treaters, coming up with a costume is half the fun of Halloween. For others, it's all about getting out the door and ringing as many doorbells as possible. But no matter what your level of creativity, or your budget, you can easily pull something together.

• **Start simple** — If you're not interested in anything elaborate, a basic costume can be created from everyday clothing. For instance, a sports uniform gets you in the game. Or get yourself a plaid flannel shirt, blue jeans and suspenders to reinvent yourself as a lumberjack. Remember, accessories are the key to pulling off your costume.

• **Mask-erade** — If you've got a little money to spend, you may want to check out masks available at specialty Halloween retailers. Popular masks are available separately, which allows the wearers to augment with whatever costume they like. This year's favorites include horror-film icons such as Freddy Krueger from "Nightmare on Elm Street" and Jason Voorhees from "Friday the 13th." Joining their ranks this year at Spencer Gifts is Pinhead from the "Hellraiser" movies. This will be the first time this character has been available as a Halloween mask.

• **Head-to-Toe** — On the other hand, if you're the kind to go all-out for this once-a-year occasion, there are plenty of full-body costumes available, ranging from twists on traditional costumes like the sexy Spider-web Witch to more ghastly get-ups like the Bad Seed. This pumpkin-headed creature, available only at Spencer Gifts, serves as a



Choosing the appropriate costume for Halloween is a personal and timely process.

costume and a decoration and is sure to scare up shrieks of both horror and delight.

Places to find last minute costumes in Shreveport:

Party City - 797-8878
The Fun Shop - 227-8908
Wolf 'n' Diller - 865-6600

Adding a stroke of color to your life can alter your mood

(NAPSI)—It has long been known that colors can alter our moods and appetites. Years of research has shown that certain colors elicit specific—and often strong—responses.

For instance, colors such as red, yellow and orange can inspire conversation and an upbeat attitude. The cool colors, such as green and purple, can pacify the emotions and are thought by many to be ideal for bedrooms or private retreats. Pink is said to soothe and promote affability and affection, while yellow is thought to cheer and increase energy. Blue is used to facilitate healing, tranquility, stability and loyalty.

Colors also translate the language of flowers with pink posies communicating happiness, grace and admiration. Red, as in roses, sends messages of love, respect and passion. Yellow blooms signify friendship, caring and joy. White flowers proclaim purity and innocence. Lavender tells of deep love and sympathy.

Through the centuries, colors have also been used for communicating meanings in flags, shields and family crests, the months of the year and the seasons and religious symbolism. We use color to describe situations, such as "once in a blue moon everything goes right."

In religious symbolism, red is associated with fire and blood and blue with heaven and truth.

Even the realm of technology has been influenced by color. For years, laptops and cell phones were available in only bland, neutral colors. The same for hand-held video game systems. Now the makers of the latest technology let people express their individuality and personality by offering their newest devices in a wider array of colors.

For instance, Game Boy® Advance SP, is now offering consumers a chance to express themselves through color. This redesigned version of the popular Game Boy Advance now comes in two new color choices—Flame (red) and Onyx (black)—that let consumers personalize these high-tech gadgets. The system also is available in the original colors of Cobalt (blue) and Platinum (silver).

The high-tech world is becoming more colorful as manufacturers let consumers add a touch of individuality—and color—to their cell-phones and hand-held devices.

Transfer all your old VHS movies to DVDs

(NAPSI)—Do you have boxes full of dusty videotapes hidden away in your closet or basement, never to be viewed again? Chances are you've caught some great footage of weddings, vacations and childhood memories on tape, but you may not be able to enjoy them if you've swapped out your VCR for a DVD player. Why not preserve your footage on a shiny DVD so that you can enjoy the video for years to come? It's not as difficult as you would think.

To get started, connect a video capture solution to your computer, and connect your VCR or camcorder to the video capture solution's inputs. Video capture solutions are small devices that can convert your analog video to digital and save it on your computer. At this point, you can use the software that came with your DVD burner to edit your video and add effects.

The final step is to burn the video to DVD. Opt for a DVD burner, like Sony's Dual RW model, that can burn to most types of DVD discs. DVD burners come with newer PCs or can be purchased

separately and easily connected.

On top of playing back in your DVD player, DVDs offer two key benefits over videotapes. The first is video storage. Up to two hours of high quality MPEG-2 video will fit onto a single DVD. The second is viewing convenience. Since the footage can be broken up into "chapters," it becomes easy to skip ahead to the next piece of video, or view a chapter again. No fast forwarding and no rewinding needed.

DVD burners can also be used for other applications. You can create slide shows from your digital still photos that will play on most DVD players. You can back up your PC data onto high-capacity DVD discs (seven times more storage than standard CDs), or send large files to others. You can also do everything you could do with your CD burner, such as make custom music CDs, MP3 discs, and more.

For more tips on converting VHS video to DVD, check out Sony's tutorial at www.sony.com/dvdburners.

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VOLUNTEER

continued from page 1

house emphasizes education for children and the other emphasizes education for youth. However, the purpose of the SBCR coordinators is not only to work with children, but with the whole neighborhood.

Some of the SBCR attention is being focused on the adults who are interested in going back to school to get their GED. There is also a program for seniors.

Currently, Cedar Grove is the only neighborhood that has a program for adults who meet with a mentor and work at their own pace to further their education.

The SBCR has several ways that they plan to reach the community. Some of the organizations put together are the Renewal Team, a team dedicated to rebuilding the community into a more loving, nurturing, and caring place to live and work.

Another organization to help the community is the Haven House, which recruits and equips people to "remake" the community. There is also the Internal Care Unit Plan, an intensive effort to rebuild the in-

frastructure of community high-crime, low-income neighborhoods. Families from the SBCR, called Community Coordinators, live and work in a specific neighborhood to support the ICU plan.

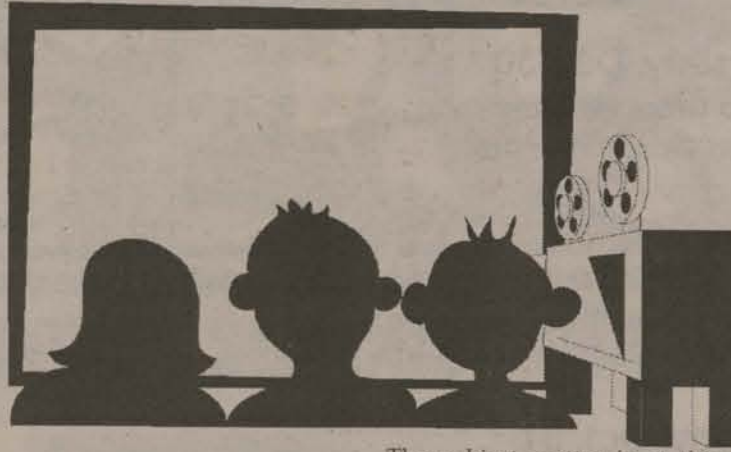
Many of the books that were distributed to the children were donated by several centers and clubs in the community.

Manuela Standard, a Community coordinator, has hands on experience helping children and adults. Working at the SBCR since 2001, she has already seen an improvement in some of the students she has worked with.

Recently, she saw two of her students receive an award at their school for being on the "A/B" honor roll. When a child achieves well in their studies, they are rewarded by getting a special treat, such as going to the movies or to a nice restaurant.

The SBCR mission statement is, "Shreveport-Bossier Community Renewal is striving to restore the foundation of safe and caring communities by rebuilding the neighborhood system of caring relationships."

Jason's Flick Picks



BY JASON LIMERICK

"The Hulk"

Only one review this week folks, because there's really only one movie coming out that wasn't some low-rent action flick starring Lorenzo Lamas or Gary Busey or a variety of rappers trying to be actors... Anyway, on to "The Hulk." I'm a comic book fan, and although that implies compulsive collecting disorder and unnerving attention to continuity, I also understand how difficult it is to bring something like this to the big screen. So when you talk to anyone who starts with the line, "Well they shouldn't have changed this," or "In the comic it was a bomb blast, so it was stupid ... all that new junk," tell them to shut up and enjoy it for what it is. Now, the good stuff. The cast is amazing. Eric Bana brings Bruce Banner's tortured soul sufficiently to life. Jennifer Connelly is amazing as "Betty," but the real treat here is Nick Nolte's painfully evil turn as Bruce's crazy father.

The subject matter is at times cheesy — e.g. a giant green man who smashes things — and at times too complicated to cram into two hours. That being said, I thought Director Ang Lee did an amazing job. He took the subject matter seriously and turned it from over-the-top comic styling to a Victorian-era romantic Jekyll and Hyde epic. From Bruce Banner's struggles with the monster inside him, to the parallels drawn between Betty and Bruce's past, to the conniving father waiting in the wings to retrieve his price, it becomes an eloquent dance that ends in a symphony of rage. However, this movie has quite a few faults. First off, the computer graphics, although used the best I think they could have, at times seem rubbery and ridiculous. The Hulk is an overall impressive creation, but lacking in convincing emotion. The movie also runs too long and drags in parts — it takes an hour for the green goliath to first appear — but I liked the way they slowly cranked up the excitement. The

ending is a little off the tone of the movie, and leaves you scratching your head a bit, but there's a cool little scene at the end that makes up for it. Overall, I loved it, but I can also see how others might not.

★★★★☆

Jason's off the scale, must see, all time classics

"Osamu Tesuka's Metropolis"

All right, I'm letting it all hang out today. I already told you that I'm a comic fan, and now my classic is a little known anime film. Somewhere a "nerd alert" is going off, but you gotta trust me on this one. I know the first thing you think of when you think of anime is cartoon, but "Metropolis" is a more mature film than almost any American movie I've seen in recent memory. Directed by Rintaro and scripted by Katsuhiro Otomo (Akira), it's visually jaw dropping, blowing away anything you'll see from Disney, and filled with characters that are rich with life and pack genuine emotional punch. It's got ungodly cool sci-fi elements, but it's fundamentally a small story about the horrors of humanity. I would recommend this film to anyone. It's an extremely under — appreciated piece of film, and it needs to be seen.

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safe
and
happy

Halloween

from the Almagest staff

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Calendar of Events

Thursday, Oct. 30

Create a Great Funeral Day
Haunted Refrigerator Day

10 a.m. - 12 p.m.

SGA meeting

10 a.m. - 12 p.m.

Phi Eta Sigma meeting

Fall Fest

Friday, Oct. 31

HALLOWEEN

SSS 4th year - Time Management Project deadline

SSS 1st year - Fresman Focus meeting 2 deadline

Fall Fest

November is National Peanut Butter Lover's Month

Saturday, Nov. 1

All Saints Day

Men Make Dinner Day

Sunday, Nov. 2

Plan Your Epitaph Day

4 p.m. - 9 p.m.

Zeta Tau Alpha

5 p.m. - 8 p.m.

Phi Mu

7 p.m. - 9:30 p.m.

Sigma Nu

Monday, Nov. 3

National Cliché Day

Sandwich Day

Tuesday, Nov. 4

10:30 a.m. - 11 a.m.

SSS 2nd year - Campus Jobs you will love

College Democrats Meeting, BH 108

SSS 4th year - Budget Project deadline

Wednesday, Nov. 5

12 p.m. - 12:30 p.m.

SSS 1st year - Blackboard

Demonstration

7 p.m. - 9 p.m.

Zeta Tau Alpha

Meeting

Thursday, Nov. 6

7 a.m. - 10 p.m.

Third World Studies

Association

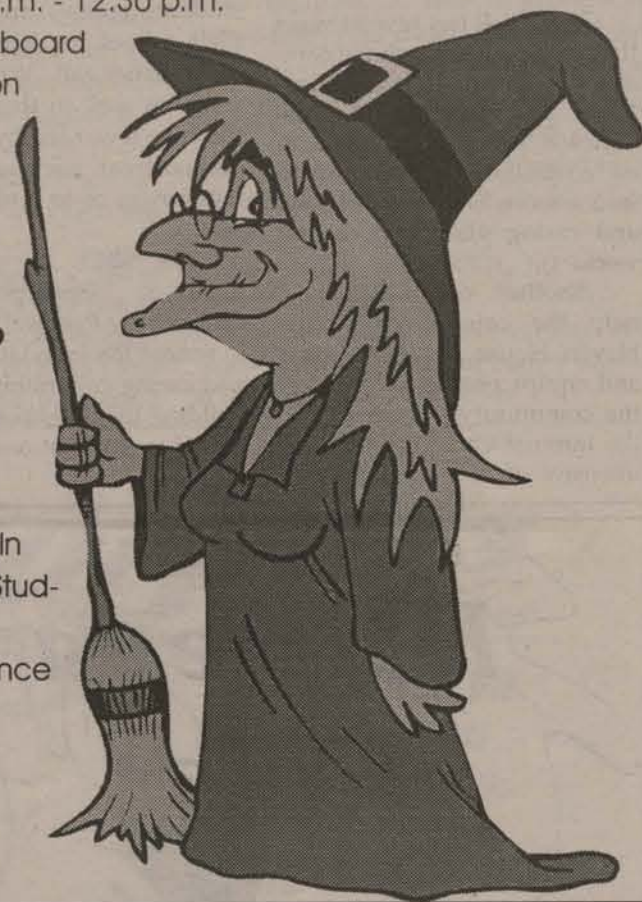
Conference

International Lincoln

Center's Third World Stud-

ies

Association Conference



AUTOPILOTS



BY JASON